

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 03655 280355Z

14-11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /055 W

----- 018624

P 280300Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4251

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

COMIPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3655

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL BIEN HOA 27 MAR 75,
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO. QUOTE.

C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 222

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJ: MILITARY SITUATION IN MC3

REF: BIEN HOA 219

1. THE MR3 DEPUTY COMMANDER, MG HIEU, INFORMED AT 1745 HOURS
MAR 27 THAT THE MORNING'S NVA/VC ATTACK AT CHON THANH WAS THE
ONLY MAJOR ACTION IN MR3 THROUGH THE DAY. HE SAID THAT THE OTHER
SIDE BROKE OFF THE ATTACK AT 1600 HOURS AFTER TAKING EXTREMELY
HEAVY CASUALTIES WHILE THE DEFENDING RANGERS AND RF TROOPS
TOOK ONLY LIGHT CASUALTIES. CASUALTY FIGURES HAVE NOT BEEN
RECEIVED, HE SAID, BUT REPORTS FROM CHON THANH WERE THAT THE
ENGAGEMENT HAD BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FOR GVN FORCES WITH NVA
CASUALTIES GREATER THAN THE PREVIOUS TWO ENGAGEMENTS SEVERAL
DAYS AGO. GEN HIEU SAID INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE ATTACKING
FORCES, WHICH STRUCK FROM THE SOUTHEAST AND SOUTHWEST OF CHON
THANH, WERE FROM THE 273RD REGT WITH THE TROOPS, AS BEFORE,
GREEN AND INEXPERIENCED. CONTRARY TO EARLIER REPORTS, HIEU
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SAID, TANKS WERE NOT DEPLOYED IN TODAY'S ATTACK--PERHAPS BE-

CAUSE OF THE HEAVY TANK LOSSES IN THE PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS.

2. DURING MAR 26-27 ONLY TWO ROCKETS HAVE FALLEN IN THE BIEN
HOA AREA. THEY STRUCK HARMLESSLY ON THE AIR BASE NORTH OF THE
RUNWAY AT 0230 HOURS MAR 27. SIGNED PETERS. UNQUOTE.
MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON03655
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750108-0694
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975036/aaaaaffk.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BIEN HOA 219
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY SITUATION IN MC3
TAGS: MOPS, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006